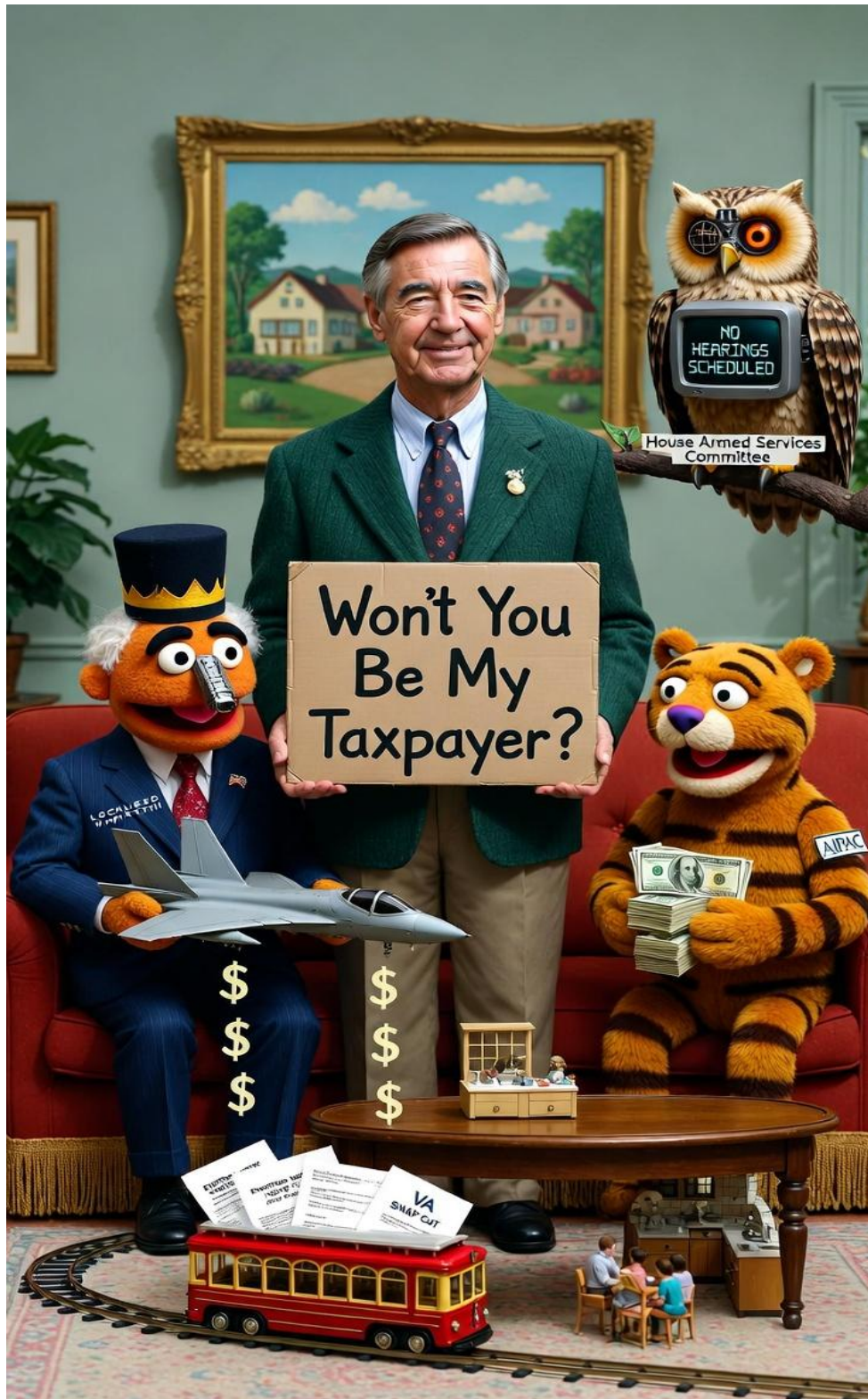




Analysis: Congress Funds the F-35 Failure While Slashing American Livelihoods – Temperature Zero

---

**The F-35 – A \$1.7 Trillion Program Defeated by Iranian Low-Tech Countermeasures**

| Fact                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Verification                                                                                  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Lifetime cost of the F-35 program (procurement + operations) exceeds <b>\$1.7 trillion</b> .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Government Accountability Office; DoD budget documents                                        |
| Iran successfully tracked and damaged an F-35 using <b>Infrared Search and Track (IRST)</b> —a passive sensor that costs a fraction of the jet.                                                                                                                                                                                                | Open source reporting; IRGC claims; CENTCOM confirmation of emergency landing, March 19, 2026 |
| Iran’s <b>“Majid”</b> air defense system and <b>“Product 358”</b> loitering missile exploit the F-35’s unavoidable heat signature.                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Military analysis; Iranian state media                                                        |
| The F-35 was sold as “invisible to radar.” Its vulnerability to thermal tracking was known but ignored.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | DoD Inspector General reports; whistleblower testimony                                        |
| <b>Conclusion:</b> Congress appropriated hundreds of billions for a weapons system that a regional power can defeat with off-the-shelf sensors and missiles costing less than the jet’s fuel for a single sortie. This is not a “technical surprise”; it is a predictable outcome of prioritizing contractor profits over operational reality. |                                                                                               |

---

**The Other Side of the Ledger – Social Programs Slashed**

| Program                                                     | Current Status (2026)                                                                                                            | Source                                                      |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)</b>          | Funding flatlined; processing delays for disabled veterans and civilians; Congress proposes benefit cuts to “preserve solvency.” | Congressional Budget Office; Social Security Administration |
| <b>Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP/EBT)</b> | Benefit levels reduced; work requirement expansions; administrative caps.                                                        | Farm Bill negotiations; USDA                                |
| <b>Medicare</b>                                             | Reimbursement rates frozen; proposed privatization of traditional Medicare; Part B premiums rising faster than COLA.             | Medicare Trustees Report                                    |
| <b>Veterans Benefits</b>                                    | VA homecare reimbursement cut 20% effective January 1, 2026; billions in war spending while veterans’ healthcare is rationed.    | VA budget documents; user’s prior reporting                 |

**Contrast:** The \$1.7 trillion F-35 lifecycle cost could have funded:

- 25 years of the entire SSDI program (current annual cost ~\$150B)

- 34 years of SNAP at current spending levels (~\$50B/year)
- Full elimination of the VA healthcare backlog and construction of new veterans hospitals in every state.

---

**Congressional Power of the Purse – Weaponized Against Americans, Surrendered to Foreign Lobbies**

| Congressional Action                                                                                                             | Effect                                                                                                                                 |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Authorized F-35 production despite known vulnerabilities.                                                                        | Taxpayer money flows to defense contractors (Lockheed Martin) with deep Israeli ties (Israel is a major F-35 operator).                |
| Cut SSDI, SNAP, Medicare while adding \$22.76 billion in military aid to Israel after receiving the Superzar Pro archive.        | Americans are told “we cannot afford” social programs, yet billions are found for a foreign war and a failed stealth fighter.          |
| Refused to reform procurement; rejected whistleblower warnings on F-35 heat vulnerability.                                       | The same Congress that ignored the archive also ignored the F-35’s flaws—both serve the same donor network.                            |
| Held no hearings on why \$1.7 trillion produced a jet that can be shot down by an Iranian sensor that costs less than a new car. | Oversight is theater; the only investigations target executive officials (lateral fire), not the military-industrial-Israeli pipeline. |

---

**The Capture Link – Why Congress Funds Weapons That Fail and Cuts Benefits That Keep Americans Alive**

| Node            | Role                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|-----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Lockheed Martin | Manufacturer of F-35; top donor to AIPAC-funded members; lobbyist for Israel’s F-35 fleet.                                                                                                           |
| AIPAC           | Funds 349 members; ensures military aid to Israel remains “untouchable”; protects defense budgets that feed the Israel-first lobby.                                                                  |
| Israel          | Operates the F-35; has a direct interest in U.S. maintaining production lines so its own fleet can be sustained; shares intelligence on Iranian capabilities but not warnings of F-35 vulnerability. |
| Congress        | Accepts campaign money; votes for weapons that fail; cuts social programs; ignores the archive.                                                                                                      |

**The irony:** Iran defeated the F-35 with technology Israel could have warned the U.S. about. Instead, Israel kept silent, the U.S. kept funding, and Congress cut food stamps while the jet burned.

---

## **The Golden Irrefutable**

Congress holds the power of the purse. It chooses to spend \$1.7 trillion on a stealth fighter that Iranian heat sensors can track and damage with a \$200,000 missile. It chooses to cut SSDI, SNAP, Medicare, and veterans' home care—programs that keep Americans alive—while adding \$22.76 billion in military aid to Israel after receiving evidence that Israel's lobby captured the government. The F-35's failure is not a surprise; it is a symptom. The cuts to social programs are not "hard choices"; they are deliberate wealth transfers from the American people to the same donor network that profits from endless war and foreign capture.

The jet is down. The benefits are gone. The Congress that did this is still in session. The archive sits unopened. The 600-lb gorilla is still on the scale.